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petty shops. With a view to remove the hardship and to enable the Labour Department to concentrate their attention on bigger establishments instead of on petty ones, the Government have exempted temporarily for a period of one year all shops and establishments employing three and less than three persons from the provisions of the Act. It is proposed to review the position after one year.

" (*b*) The question arose from a representation made by the Madura Betel-nut Beedi Cigarette Merchants' Association, Madurai.

" (*c*) No, Sir."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" சில தினங்களுக்கு முன் விவாதத்திற்கு பதில் அளிக்கும்போது சில அம்சங்களை மீண்டும் அமுல் நடத்துவதற்கு புனராலோசனை செய்து கொண்டிருப்பதாக மந்திரி பதில் சொன்னார். புனராலோசனை செய்து உத்தரவு பிறப்பிக்கப்பட்டு விட்டதா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" இதைப்பற்றி பரிசீலனை செய்யப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இன்னும் முடிவாகவில்லை. சீக்கிரம் முடிவு செய்யப்பட்டுவிடும்."

Cashewnut factories.

* 1590 *Q.*—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have any scheme to start cashewnut factories or to aid private individuals and concerns for starting such factories in the State, particularly in the Malabar district?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government are investigating the possibilities of starting a cashewnut factory on a co-operative basis in the South Arcot district. There is no proposal to start such factories in other places or to aid private individuals and concerns therein."

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" Sir, the cashew- 9.10
nut cultivators of Malabar are getting only a very low price for their a.m.
products, because some one or two big concerns have monopolized this industry. Considering the difficulties and the low price that the cultivators are getting because of the non-existence of a factory there, will the Government sympathetically consider to start a factory there or to grant aids to any societies that may be formed for this purpose and thus help the cashewnut cultivators? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" These cashewnut factories we have several on the West Coast and they are prospering very well. But if there is any need for more factories, it can be considered."